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USSE MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

USSR BUILDS UNDERGROUND HANGARS -- Dakar, Paris-Dakar, 11 Jan 54

The USSR has recently built underground installations in various parts of its territory, particularly in the Kazakh SSR, to protect its aircraft from attack by atom bombers. Several types of these combination barracks and hangars have been under study. A typical one, built inside a hill in the immediate vicinity of an airfield, is 197 meters long, 50 meters wide, and 12 meters high. A reinforced-concrete vault, 1 1/2-2 meters thick, reinforces the 6-meter layer of soil and rocks which protects the entire "anthill." In the structure, there is a 125,000-liter fuel tank.

Other installations have been built within the natural shelter of the hills. The hangars are embedded in the subsoil at a depth of 10-15 meters.

Most of these projects, undertaken by order of Malyshev, chairman of the Soviet atomic energy commission, have been built by German war prisoners.

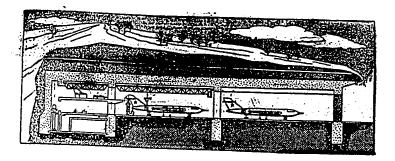
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Vertical Section of USSR Underground Hangar

STORAGE OF WAR MATERIEL IN THE CARPATHO-UKRAINE -- Linz, Oberoesterreichische Nachrichten, 7 Nov 53

Besides having immense timber resources, a minor salt deposit, and a few ore deposits, the Carpatho-Ukraine also serves as a depot for large stocks of war materiel safe from detection and destruction by the enemy. Enough railroad ties and rails are stored in the mountain valleys to build a railroad line to the Atlantic. Ammunition is stored in rock caverns and many mountain tops contain reservoirs of gasoline or oil. Industry in the area has expanded from 5 to over 400 enterprises. Cloth for uniforms, caps, fur-lined coats, boots, and articles for civilian use are produced. From appearances, the Soviets have set up an arsenal in the area mainly to process ray materials from the Satellites. Railroad workers from Rumania, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia are not allowed to cross the boundary. All the railroad transfer stations are in the territory of the adjacent states, and the Soviet security service controls the borders.

LOCATION AND STRENGTH OF USSR ARMY AND AIR UNITS -- Athens, To Vima, 20 Jan 54

At present, a relatively small percentage of the Soviet ground forces are stationed along the frontiers of Europe and the Middle East. The bulk of the forces has been moved to the Far East and the north. The same holds true for the Soviet air forces. Most of the air groups located along the European and Middle East frontiers are defensive rather than offensive groups.

The strength of the Soviet ground forces now amounts to 247 divisions, as compared to 216 in 1952. There are 67 tank divisions, 8 parachute divisions, 61 artillery divisions, 55 infantry divisions, 41 armored divisions, 10 specially trained Arctic divisions, and 5 cavalry divisions.

There are 48 divisions along the frontiers of Europe including Scandinavia. 24 divisions along the Iranian and Afghan frontiers, 36 divisions in central USSR, 11 in Western Siberia, 59 in northern Siberia, and 58 in southeastern Siberia.

According to reliable information, 60 percent of the Soviet air forces are stationed in eastern and northeastern Siberia, while the air forces facing Europe and the Middle East have been significantly decreased. According to the same information, most of the Soviet strategic air forces are located in northern and Eastern Siberia.

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